

Steven A. Sunshine *et al.*
Application No.: 09/600,346
Page 2

PATENT

REMARKS

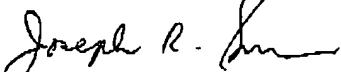
Claims 1-28 are pending in this application and presented for examination. Applicants hereby elect Group I, drawn to a sensor array, with traverse. Claims readable thereon include claims 1-17.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assessment that U.S. Patent No. 5,571,401 discloses aligned conductive materials. Applicants assert that an aligned region is novel and unobvious over the '401 patent as the PCT Examiner found in International Preliminary Examination Report mailed November 24, 2000. Moreover, Applicants are in agreement with the PCT Examiner that unity of the present invention exists.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request joinder of all the claims and early action on the merits.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph R. Snyder
Reg. No. 39,381

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: (415) 576-0200
Fax: (415) 576-0300
JS/me
SF 1285959 v1